

Re: Query doesn't always sort

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.queries/2007-05/msg00202.html>

- *From:* "John Spencer" <spencer@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 2 May 2007 16:39:40 -0400
-

I'm sorry, but nothing you can do will guarantee that the table is sorted in any special order.

You have to use a query to sort the data in to your required order and then export the query. IF you aren't bringing in the fields that you need to determine the order you need and then using them in a query to export the data, then as far as I know there is no reliable solution.

As I've repeatedly said, records in tables have no order.

—
John Spencer
Access MVP 2002–2005, 2007
Center for Health Program Development and Management
University of Maryland Baltimore County

..

<sam.alame@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:1178131075.530557.54980@xx

Hi John,

My table doesn't have a primary key. The 'unsort' seems to be completely random. Also, my table structures are not very consistent, as I'm dealing with quite a few tables in multiple databases.

How do I impose a sort on the datasheet view? Would that actually order the table? I am asking because after the final tables are produced, I have a tool that splits and exports the data into Excel, and I need the data to be sorted over there as well.

Thanks,
Sam

On May 2, 9:05 am, "John Spencer" <spen...@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

You can try the following if your table structure is always consistent.

Re: Query doesn't always sort

- Define an table structure – TheTableBlank – with all your fields and add a sequential autonumber field as the primary key
- Copy the table structure (Docmd.CopyObject Currentdb().Name,"TheTable",acTable,"TheTableBlank")
- APPEND your records to the table you have just created

THAT MAY give you the records in sequence. BUT remember TABLES are unordered. If you want to impose an order you must sort the data either using a query or in Access imposing a sort order on the datasheet view.

If you don't impose an order on the datasheet view of a table and there is a primary key in the table, then Access will show the records in primary key order (at least that is the behavior I have observed)

--
John Spencer
Access MVP 2002–2005, 2007
Center for Health Program Development and Management
University of Maryland Baltimore County

<sam.al...@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:1178108659.966528.243140@xx

John,

Do you mean that I would have to create a blank table in a query and then append the data to it, as per Gary's suggestion? Or do you have another workaround?

Thanks,
Sam

On May 1, 2:47 pm, "John Spencer" <spen...@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

Re: Query doesn't always sort

I just realized that you are using the query to do a make table.

===== Speculation follows

=====

Make table queries can more or less ignore the sort order when they are creating the table. Even if the records were written in the sorted order, they may or may not be written to the disk in any specific order as far as disk storage order goes. So when they are retrieved they aren't retrieved in the write order but in disk access order (if no specific order is available).

If you have a primary key then Access will use that as the default order when it displays the table in DataSheet view.

===== End of speculation

=====

BUT tables have no inherent order. If you want to impose a reliable order you must sort the data in a query based on the table you have created.

Sorry, but that is the way it is (at least as far as I know).

--

John Spencer
Access MVP 2002–2005, 2007
Center for Health Program Development and Management

Re: Query doesn't always sort
University of Maryland Baltimore County

<sam.al...@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message

news:1178041281.145939.293740@xx

John,

From my
experience
and that of
my
colleagues
with a
similar
problem,

this sometimes occurs even
after a compact and repair.
Also, it
seems
to be happening with
multiple databases on a
regular basis, so I
don't
see this as a corrupt
database issue.

Any other ideas?

Thanks,
Sam

On Apr 27, 2:22 pm, "John
Spencer"
<spen...@xxxxxxxx>

Re: Query doesn't always sort

wrote:

A couple of things to try.

Try using DISTINCTROW in the query. That may take care of the problem.

It is possible that an index has gotten corrupted. Try removing all indexes on the table, doing a compact and repair, and then restoring the indexes. Perhaps you have a corrupted index.

```
SELECT
DISTINCTROW
P.GEOSORT,
P.TERR_CODE_IND
AS
TERR_CODE,
P.GEO_CODE,
P.GEO_DESC,
P.PRODUCT_SHORT_NAME,
```

Re: Query doesn't always sort

P.M23VA,
P.M22VA,
P.M21VA,
P.M20VA,
P.M19VA,
P.M18VA,
P.M17VA,
P.M16VA,
P.M15VA,
P.M14VA,
P.M13VA,
P.M12VA,
P.M11VA,
P.M10VA,
P.M9VA,
P.M8VA,
P.M7VA,
P.M6VA,
P.M5VA,
P.M4VA,
P.M3VA,
P.M2VA,
P.M1VA,
P.CMTHVA,
P.M23VC,
P.M22VC,
P.M21VC,
P.M20VC,
P.M19VC,
P.M18VC,
P.M17VC,
P.M16VC,
P.M15VC,
P.M14VC,
P.M13VC,
P.M12VC,
P.M11VC,
P.M10VC,
P.M9VC,
P.M8VC,
P.M7VC,
P.M6VC,
P.M5VC,
P.M4VC,
P.M3VC,
P.M2VC,
P.M1VC,
P.CMTHVC,
P.M23VSAA,
P.M22VSAA,
P.M21VSAA,

Re: Query doesn't always sort

Re: Query doesn't always sort

P.M20VSAA,
P.M19VSAA,
P.M18VSAA,
P.M17VSAA,
P.M16VSAA,
P.M15VSAA,
P.M14VSAA,
P.M13VSAA,
P.M12VSAA,
P.M11VSAA,
P.M10VSAA,
P.M9VSAA,
P.M8VSAA,
P.M7VSAA,
P.M6VSAA,
P.M5VSAA,
P.M4VSAA,
P.M3VSAA,
P.M2VSAA,
P.M1VSAA,
P.CMTHVSAA,
P.M23VSAC,
P.M22VSAC,
P.M21VSAC,
P.M20VSAC,
P.M19VSAC,
P.M18VSAC,
P.M17VSAC,
P.M16VSAC,
P.M15VSAC,
P.M14VSAC,
P.M13VSAC,
P.M12VSAC,
P.M11VSAC,
P.M10VSAC,
P.M9VSAC,
P.M8VSAC,
P.M7VSAC,
P.M6VSAC,
P.M5VSAC,
P.M4VSAC,
P.M3VSAC,
P.M2VSAC,
P.M1VSAC,
P.CMTHVSAC
INTO
SORTED_P
FROM P
ORDER
BY
P.GEOSORT,

Re: Query doesn't always sort

of
the
table,
some
lines
are
clearly
out
of
place
and
not
sorted.
I
need
to
deliver
these
tables
directly
to
my
client,
but
sorted
in
a
particular
way.
The
sort
works
most
of
the
time,
but
it
sometimes
leaves
a
big
chunk
of
the
table
unsorted.
When
I
see
it,

Re: Query doesn't always sort

I
usually
rerun
the
query
once
or
twice
and
it
works.
The
problem
is
that
I
can't
automate
the
entire
procedure
through
a
macro
because
of
this.

Any
advice
would
be
appreciated.

On
Apr
27,
11:55
am,
"John
Spencer"
<spen...@xxxxxxxxxx>
wrote:

Why
do
you

Re: Query doesn't always sort

say
it
doesn't
always
sort?
Do
you
see
the
behavior
when
you
use
the
query
as
the
source
for
a
report?
If
so,
then
you
need
to
be
aware
that
reports
more
or
less
ignore
any
sorting
done
by
the
query.
You
need
to
use
the
report's
Sorting
and
Group
(View:

Re: Query doesn't always sort

Sorting
and
Grouping)
to
set
up
the
sorting.

--
John
Spencer
Access
MVP
2002–2005,
2007
Center
for
Health
Program
Development
and
Management
University
of
Maryland
Baltimore
County
.

<sam.al...@xxxxxxxxxx>
wrote
in
message

news:1177676065.778413.252420@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hello,

I
have

Re: Query doesn't always sort

an
access
query
that
I
run
on
a
regular
basis
but
that
doesn't
always
sort.
It
sorts
most
of
the
time,
but
once
in
a
while
it
won't,
which
makes
it
really
annoying
and
impractical.

Does
anybody
know
why
this
is
happening?

Thank
you.

Re: Query doesn't always sort

The
query
is:

```
SELECT
P.GEOSORT,
P.TERR_CODE_IND
AS
TERR_CODE,
P.GEO_CODE,
P.GEO_DESC,
P.PRODUCT_SHORT_NAME,
P.M23VA,
P.M22VA,
P.M21VA,
P.M20VA,
P.M19VA,
P.M18VA,
P.M17VA,
P.M16VA,
P.M15VA,
P.M14VA,
P.M13VA,
P.M12VA,
P.M11VA,
P.M10VA,
P.M9VA,
P.M8VA,
P.M7VA,
P.M6VA,
P.M5VA,
P.M4VA,
P.M3VA,
P.M2VA,
P.M1VA,
P.CMTHVA,
P.M23VC,
P.M22VC,
P.M21VC,
P.M20VC,
P.M19VC,
P.M18VC,
P.M17VC,
P.M16VC,
P.M15VC,
P.M14VC,
P.M13VC,
```

Re: Query doesn't always sort

P.M12VC,
P.M11VC,
P.M10VC,
P.M9VC,
P.M8VC,
P.M7VC,
P.M6VC,
P.M5VC,
P.M4VC,
P.M3VC,
P.M2VC,
P.M1VC,
P.CMTHVC,
P.M23VSAA,
P.M22VSAA,
P.M21VSAA,
P.M20VSAA,
P.M19VSAA,
P.M18VSAA,
P.M17VSAA,
P.M16VSAA,
P.M15VSAA,
P.M14VSAA,
P.M13VSAA,
P.M12VSAA,
P.M11VSAA,
P.M10VSAA,
P.M9VSAA,
P.M8VSAA,
P.M7VSAA,
P.M6VSAA,
P.M5VSAA,
P.M4VSAA,
P.M3VSAA,
P.M2VSAA,
P.M1VSAA,
P.CMTHVSAA,
P.M23VSAC,
P.M22VSAC,
P.M21VSAC,
P.M20VSAC,
P.M19VSAC,
P.M18VSAC,
P.M17VSAC,
P.M16VSAC,
P.M15VSAC,
P.M14VSAC,
P.M13VSAC,
P.M12VSAC,
P.M11VSAC,
P.M10VSAC,

Re: Query doesn't always sort

```
P.M9VSAC,  
P.M8VSAC,  
P.M7VSAC,  
P.M6VSAC,  
P.M5VSAC,  
P.M4VSAC,  
P.M3VSAC,  
P.M2VSAC,  
P.M1VSAC,  
P.CMTHVSAC  
INTO  
SORTED_P  
FROM  
P  
ORDER  
BY  
P.GEOSORT,  
P.TERR_CODE_IND,  
P.GEO_CODE,  
P.GEO_DESC,  
P.PRODUCT_LOGICAL_ORDER;--  
Hide  
quoted  
text  
--
```

```
--  
Show  
quoted  
text  
--  
Hide  
quoted  
text  
--
```

```
-- Show  
quoted text  
-- Hide  
quoted text  
--
```

-- Show quoted text -- Hide quoted text --

Re: Query doesn't always sort

– Show quoted text –